MOTION

NO. M-26-167

CITY HALL: April 23, 2026

BY: COUNCILMEMBER GREEN

SECONDED BY:

WHEREAS, Section 146-762 of the Code of the City of New Orleans authorizes the City Council to designate by motion any intersection within the City to honor any person who has made significant contributions to the cultural, educational, or artistic landscape of New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Dr. S. Carver Davenport has dedicated five decades of service to Dillard University as the esteemed Director of the Dillard University Concert Choir, becoming the longest-tenured HBCU choral director in the nation and a pillar of excellence in music education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Davenport holds the prestigious Ray Charles Endowed Professorship in Music and has had a profound impact on generations of students, shaping their musical talents, academic growth, and personal development through discipline, artistry, and mentorship; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, the Dillard University Concert Choir has achieved national and international recognition, performing across the country and uplifting audiences through powerful renditions of spirituals, gospel, and classical works rooted in the rich traditions of Black music; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Davenport's influence extends beyond the classroom through his compositions, including "Fare Ye Well," and through his commitment to preserving and advancing the legacy of choral excellence within historically Black colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, Dillard University and the broader New Orleans community have recognized Dr. Davenport as a "living legend," honoring his 50-year tenure and lifelong contributions to music and education through special performances, tributes, and community support; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of New Orleans desires to honor Dr. S. Carver Davenport for his extraordinary dedication, cultural impact, and enduring legacy in the field of music and education; and

WHEREAS, the intersection of Gentilly Boulevard and Allen Street is an appropriate location for this honorary designation due to its proximity to Dillard University, where Dr. Davenport has made his lasting contributions; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT MOVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, That the intersection of Gentilly Boulevard and Allen Street be and hereby is designated as the "Dr. S. C. Davenport Honorary Intersection" pursuant to Section 146-762 of the Code of the City of New Orleans; and

BE IT FURTHER MOVED, That the Department of Public Works is directed to install, within one hundred twenty (120) days of the adoption of this Motion, distinct signage reflecting the foregoing honorary designation at one or more prominent locations within or adjacent to the intersection described herein, in a manner that does not impair traffic or pedestrian safety or create confusion between the honorary dedication and the names of the intersecting streets; and

BE IT FURTHER MOVED, That the Clerk of Council shall forward copies of this Motion to the Director of the Department of Public Works and to Dillard University.

THE FOREGOING MOTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF, AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

AND THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED.